

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY BIRD-RECORDS FROM SIAM.

By W. J. F. WILLIAMSON, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U.

Of the birds mentioned in the following list, the majority do not appear to have been recorded from this country before, while the remainder are worthy of note by reason of the length of time which has elapsed since they were last obtained, the considerable extension of their local range, or other circumstance. The new records, 38 in number, are marked with an asterisk (*).

The specimens obtained at Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, and in various localities in the north of the country, were procured by my collectors, and the measurements of total length (where given) are as noted by them. The wing-measurements are my own, and in making them I have followed the method advocated by Hartert (Nov. Zool. XXIV., p. 271, footnote), *i.e.*, to flatten the wing against the rule and thus stretch it out to its fullest extent. Hartert holds that, by measuring in this manner, greater accuracy and uniformity are obtained than by allowing the wing to retain its natural curve. With this view I am inclined to agree, as the slightest pressure causes the tip of the wing to flatten somewhat and thus increases the measurement, at times unwittingly. Seeing, however, that both methods are in use, it is necessary to state that the one here followed adds 1 or 2 millimetres to the length of the wings of even the smallest birds—and, of course, more for the larger ones. It is a pity that a uniform system of measuring has not been generally adopted.

I have to record my thanks to Mr. H. C. Robinson, Director of Museums and Fisheries, Federated Malay States, for kindly assisting me to identify several of the birds in this list.

The following abbreviations are used :—T. L.=Total length (in the flesh). W=Wing. T.=Tail.

Family CORVIDÆ—Crows, etc.

- *1. *Machlolophus spilonotus* (Blyth). *The Black-spotted Yellow Tit.*

My collector obtained a specimen on Doi Nga Chang, a hill near Lampang, Northern Siam, at a height of 3,500 ft., in February 1917.

Dr. Malcolm Smith, whom my collector was accompanying on this occasion, informs me that the hill is covered with pines at that altitude. The specimen is, unfortunately, a mummy, as the bird was shot on the last day of the trip, and, there being no time to skin it, was injected with formalin. It is an immature individual, with the forehead, lores, sides of head, nape-patch and longer feathers of the crest greenish yellow instead of bright yellow, but I think there is little doubt of the correctness of the identification. W. 69 mm.

Family *CRATEROPODIDÆ*—*Laughing-Thrushes, &c.*

2. *Dryonastes strepitans* (Blyth). *Tickell's*

Laughing-Thrush.

Garrulax strepitans, Faun. Brit. Ind., Birds, i (1889), p. 83.

Dryonastes strepitans, Gyldenstolpe, 1916, p. 55.

Mr. K. G. Gairdner obtained a male at Si-sawad, Western Siam, in May 1915, at a height of 900 metres. This was identified by the British Museum, and is worth recording as the only others so far reported were procured by Gyldenstolpe in Northern Siam.

(Iris crimson. Bill, legs and feet dark brown. Claws light silvery horn. A considerable area of naked orbital skin black, with a bluish patch beneath the eye, probably hidden in life. Shot out of a flock. K.G.G.)

*3. *Pomatorhinus ochraceiceps* Walden. *Lloyd's*

Scimitar Babbler.

2 ♂, 1 ♀. Muang Wang, Northern Siam, September, October and November 1917.

Males. T.L. 242, 245 mm. W. 93, 93.

Female. T.L. 220 mm. W. 88.

*4. *Pomatorhinus olivaceus ripponi* Harrington. *The Shan States Scimitar Babbler.*

1 ♀. Doi Nga Chang, Lampang, Northern Siam, 4,500 ft., February 1917. W. 85 mm.

2 ♀. Muang Wang, Northern Siam, October and November 1917.

T.L. 203 mm. W. 83. (The second specimen has been presented to the F.M.S. Museums, and its measurements are not available).

Family *TIMELIIDÆ*—*Babblers*.

*5. *Setaria magna magna* (Eyton). *The Large Red-headed Tree-Babbler*.

Malacopteryx magnum (part.), Faun. Brit. India, Birds, i (1889), p. 151.

1♂. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, July 1916.

T.L. 189 mm. W. 87.

*6. *Setaria magna cinerea* (Eyton). *The Small Red-headed Tree-Babbler*.

3♂. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, July 1916.

T.L. 162, 173, 175 mm. W. 77, 80, 72.

*7. *Macronus ptilosus* Jard. and Selby. *The Red-headed Black-throated Babbler*.

2♂, 6♀. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, July and August 1916.

Males. T.L. 164, 169 mm. W. 69, 69.

Females. T.L. —, —, 155, 165, 166, 170 mm. W. 66, 68, 65, 67, 64, 68.

*8. *Stachyris nigricollis* (Temm.). *The Rufous-backed Black-breasted Babbler*.

1♂, 3♀. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, July and August 1916.

Male. T.L. 165 mm. W. 71.

Females. T.L. 159, 161, 166 mm. W. 69, 69, 71.

*9. *Timelia pileata jerdoni* Walden. *Jerdon's Red-capped Babbler*.

Timelia pileata (part.), Faun. Brit. India, Birds, i (1889), p. 132.

H. R. H. the Prince of Chumpon obtained a specimen in May 1915 at Angthong, Central Siam, while my collectors procured a second at Chiangmai, Northern Siam, in June 1917 and two others at Sriracha, in the South-eastern division, in December 1917. Subsequently, in January 1918, while on a collecting trip to Nong Kae, South-western Siam, I obtained three more specimens.

All my birds have been examined by Mr. H. C. Robinson, who has pronounced them to belong to the form described by Walden [Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. 4 (x), p. 61 (1872)] from the Khasia Hills. Mr. Robinson remarks that it differs from the true *T. p. pileata*, from Java, "in its generally deeper colour, especially the more chestnut cap,

and in the more noticeable bars on the tail, which are clearly seen in certain lights." This race, as pointed out by Hartert (Nov. Zool. VIII, p. 53), is intermediate between *T. pileata pileata* from Java, and *T. pileata bengalensis* from Northern India. My specimens have somewhat shorter wings than those examined by Hartert, who gives their length as "about 67 mm".

1♂. Chiengmai, Northern Siam, June 1917. W. 65 mm. T. 79.

1♂, 1♀. Sriracha, South-eastern Siam, December 1917.

Male. T.L. 170 mm. W. 63. T. 75.

Female. T.L. 167 mm. W. 62. T. 70.

2♂, 1♀. Nong Kae, South-western Siam, January 1918.

Iris reddish brown. Bill black. Legs brownish olive. Claws horn-colour.

Males. T.L. 177, 179 mm. W. 66, 64 mm. T. 78, 79.

Female. T.L. 178 mm. W. 64 mm. T. 79.

In the Fauna of British India (*loc. cit.*) Oates remarks that this bird is found in Siam, but I have been unable to ascertain on what authority the statement was made, and Mr. H. C. Robinson, whom I have consulted on the matter, writes:—"Technically you are correct as regarding your specimens as the first recorded from Siam proper, though the bird has been obtained from many localities in Burma, within a few miles of the frontier."

*10 *Turdinulus epilepidotus bakeri* Harrington. *Baker's Wren-Babbler*.

2♂, 2♀. Muang Wang, Northern Siam, September and October 1917.

Males. T.L. 112, 112 mm. W. 53, 51.

Females. T.L. 110, 112 mm. W. 53, 51.

11. *Pteruthius aeralatus aeralatus* Tickell. *Tickell's Shrike-Tit*.

1♀. Doi Nga Chang, Lampang, Northern Siam, February 1917.

1♀. Muang Wang, Northern Siam, September 1917.

T.L. —, 160 mm. W. 77, 80.

The only previous record of this bird which I can trace is that of Robinson [Journ. F.M.S. Mus. V, p. 107 (1915)] who found it com-

mon, above 2,000 ft., on Khao Nawng, a hill in the Bandon district in Peninsular Siam.

Family *PYCNONOTIDÆ*—*Bulbuls*.

*12. *Pinarocichla euptilosa* (Jard. and Selby). *The Crested Brown Bulbul*.

3♂, 2♀. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, July and August 1916.

Males. T.L. 214, 216, 219 mm. W. 89, 89, 95.

Females. T.L. 209, 221 mm. W. 95, 92.

*13. *Hemixus hildebrandi* Hume. *Hildebrand's Brown-eared Bulbul*.

1♂, 1♀. Muang Wang, Northern Siam, October 1917.

Male. T.L. 215 mm. W. 108. Female. T.L. 205. W. 110.

*14. *Xanthixus flavescens vivida* Stuart Baker. *Blyth's Bulbul*.

1♂. Doi Nga Chang, Lampang, Northern Siam, 4000 ft., February 1917. W. 88 mm.

Family *SYLVIIDÆ*—*Warblers*.

*15. *Megalurus palustris* Horsf. *The Striated Marsh-Warbler*.

Two specimens of this bird were shot by Mr. E. G. Herbert in 1914 at, I believe, Samkok, on the Chao Phya river about 35 miles north of Bangkok, but, by an oversight, the species was not included in the list of new records from Siam published by me in June 1916 in Vol. II of this Journal, pps. 59-65.

I have since obtained a number of specimens, including four in the immediate neighbourhood of Bangkok. It is common at Klong Rangsit, about 15 miles north of the Capital, as well as along the various klongs (canals) in the country to the south and south-east of the city, and I have also seen it by the side of the railway line at least as far north as Paknampo. All these localities are on the east side of the Chao Phya river.

The bird has a striking habit of flying up with rapid beats of the wings to a height of 20 or 30 feet, and then planing down, at an

angle of 45 degrees, with the wings stretched backwards over the body. It has a short song of a few notes, which it generally utters while flying upwards.

3♂. Klong Bangsit, Central Siam, January 1917.

Iris light brown. Mouth blackish to black. Upper mandible dark horny, lower pale horny. Legs brownish flesh.

W. 100, 101, 100 mm. T. 128, 128, 133 mm.

4♂. Bangkok, Central Siam, August and November 1917 and January 1918.

W. 97, 103, 100, 104 mm. T. 105, 129, 131, 130 mm.

Family LANIIDÆ—Shrikes.

*16. *Lanius superciliosus* Lath. *The White-browed Shrike.*

1 ♂, 1 ♀. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, April and May 1918.

Male. W. 87 mm. T. 87. Female. W. 88 mm. T. 84.

Both these birds are in very brilliant fresh plumage and make an exceedingly handsome pair.

*17. *Pericrocotus brevirostris* (Vig.). *The Short-billed Minivet.*

1 ♂, 1 ♀. Doi Nga Chang, Lampang, Northern Siam, 3,500 ft., February 1917.

Male. W. 94 mm. T. 104. Female. W. 92 mm. T. 103.

*18. *Pericrocotus speciosus* (Lath.). *The Indian Scarlet Minivet.*

Mr. K. G. Gairdner shot an immature male (identified by the British Museum) at Sai Yoke, Western Siam, in January 1915.

19. *Hemipus obscurus* (Horsf.). *The Malayan Pied Shrike.*

I have already recorded in this Journal (Vol. II, p. 60) that a specimen was obtained at Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, by Mr. C. J. Aagaard. I have since seen three others from the same locality, of which two were procured by Mr. Aagaard (♂, W. 64 mm., ♀, W. 68) in November 1915, and the third (♀, T.L. 143 mm., W. 65) by my collector in July 1916. The latter also secured another specimen

(♂ imm. T.L. 145 mm., W. 65) at Paknam Chumpon, South-western Siam, in July 1917. The last mentioned locality appears to be the most northerly from which this species has yet been obtained, being in about latitude 10' 35" N.

Family *ORIOLIDÆ*—*Orioles*.

*20 *Oriolus tenuirostris* Blyth. *The Burmese Black-naped Oriole*.

1 specimen (unsexed). Doi Nga Chang, Lampang, Northern Siam, February 1917. This, unfortunately, is also a mummy, having been injected with formalin as there was no time to skin it. W. 148 mm.

Family *MUSCICAPIDÆ*—*Flycatchers*.

*21. *Rhinomyias pectoralis* Salvad. *The Grey-breasted Flycatcher*.

2♀. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, July 1916.

T. L. 163, 166 mm. W. 75, 68.

Family *TURPIDÆ*—*Thrushes*.

*22. *Cyanecula suecica* (Linn.). *The Indian Blue-throat*.

8♂, 3♀. Bangkok, Central Siam, 26th November 1917 to 4th March 1918.

Males (adult). T. L. 150, 147, —, —, — mm. W. 75, 71, 77, 71, 74.

Females. T. L. 150, —, — mm. W. 73, 69, 68.

Iris dark brown. Bill blackish brown, yellow at gape and at extreme base of lower mandible. Mouth yellow. Legs dusky flesh. Claws dark horn.

Of the above 11 birds, 8 males and 1 female were obtained between the 26th November and 5th December 1917, when the species was quite common in certain places in the suburbs of Bangkok, where the ground was moist. The remaining two birds (both females) were shot in January and March 1918, respectively.

Towards the end of last year there were high floods in the lower portion of the alluvial plain through which the Chao Phya river finds

its way to the sea at the head of the Gulf of Siam, and the country round Bangkok, for a very considerable distance, was accordingly under water for several weeks. I first observed these birds on the 25th November, when the floods were subsiding, and the roads in the suburbs again became usable by pedestrians. In walking along the Wireless Station road that evening, I noticed a number of small brown birds on the ground by the roadside, which struck me as being unfamiliar. They had the regular robin-like quick run for a few feet, with the habit of elevating the tail at the end of each short course. The ditches on both sides, and the fields beyond, were still brimful of water—the former being choked with Java weed. There must have been quite a dozen birds within a space of a quarter of a mile, and they seemed very tame—either flitting on a few yards when I got too near, or circling off over the flooded fields to get back to the road behind. Once or twice they flew on to the packed Java weed, or a roadside bush. I had no gun with me at the time, but the next morning I went there again and obtained four specimens, as well as others on later dates. I also procured three, early in December, on the Racecourse at the Sports Club, where the conditions of the ground, and the proximity of flood water, were similar. The birds obtained in January and March 1918 were shot by my collectors at other places in the neighbourhood, and they reported that they were found on moist ground. Neither I nor my collectors had ever come across the species before. It is, of course, only a winter visitor to this part of the world.

The blue throat of the males (whence the bird gets its English name) is exceedingly attractive, but unfortunately, owing to its ground-feeding habits, this feature cannot be appreciated until a specimen is obtained.

Family *FRINGILLIDÆ*—*Finches*.

23. *Emberiza rutila* Pall. *The Chestnut Bunting*.

This species was included by Mr. K. G. Gairdner in his list of birds from the Ratburi and Petchaburi districts (Vol. i., p. 149 of this Journal). As no other collector appears to have obtained it, it may be worth recording that Mr. Gairdner informs me that his specimen (♂) was shot at Sai Yoke, Western Siam, in January 1915, out of a large flock in elephant grass.

Family *HIRUNDINIDÆ*—*Swallows*.

*24. *Hypurolepis javanica* (Sparrm.), ? subsp. *The*
(? *Malay*) *House-Swallow*.

Hirundo javanica (part.), Faun. Brit. India, Birds, ii (1890), p. 279.

2♂. Koh Si Chang and Koh Phai, Inner Gulf of Siam,
May 1918.

2♀. Koh Phra, Inner Gulf of Siam, May 1918.

Males. T.L. 134, 117 mm. W. 106, 105.

Females. T. L. 130, 130 mm. W. 104, 98.

Iris dark brown. Bill black. Legs dark purplish brown.
Claws black.

These specimens were obtained during a short trip down the Gulf, which I made mainly for the purpose of settling the identity of the Swallows which I knew were breeding on one or more of the islands down there. I had previously had eggs sent to me from Koh Phai, in June 1917, and from Koh Phra, in March and April 1918, and on this trip I obtained a clutch of four from the latter island—the nest being in a small cave on the rocky shore. I have no doubt that the eggs belonged to this species. The specimen shot on Koh Phai was flying about in company with *Hirundo rustica gutturalis* (The Eastern Swallow), of which I obtained three examples—all females—but I found no nests there, although it was from this island that I had obtained a clutch the previous year, a month later. At Koh Si Chang and Koh Phai I only observed *Hypurolepis javanica*. When at close quarters, on the wing, it is easily distinguished from *Hirundo r. gutturalis* by its ashy, instead of white or pale chestnut, abdomen.

*25. *Hirundo striolata* Temm. *The Japanese Striated*
Swallow.

1♀. Chiangmai, Northern Siam, June 1917. W. 127 mm.

Family *NECTARINIDÆ*—*Sun-birds*.

*26. *Aethopyga sanguinipectus* Wald. *Walden's Yellow-*
backed Sun-bird.

1♂. Muang Wang, Northern Siam, October 1918.

Family *PITTIDÆ*—*Pittas*.

*27. *Pitta nipalensis oatesi* (Hume). *The Fulvous Pitta*.

Pitta oatesi, Faun. Brit. India, Birds, ii (1890), p. 390.

1♂ juv. Muang Wang, Northern Siam, September 1917.

T. L. 190 mm. W. 110.

Mr. H. C. Robinson, to whom the specimen was submitted for opinion, remarks :—"A very young bird, but almost certainly this form." The forehead, crown and hind-neck have whitish shaft stripes; the feathers of the back, rump, scapulars and upper wing-coverts, fulvous to whitish sub-terminal spots; the sides of the head, throat and lower abdomen are whitish with a pink tinge, interspersed with dark brown; and the breast and upper abdomen have terminal whitish spots.

Family *ZOSTEROPIDÆ*—*White-eyes*.

*28. *Zosterops aureiventer* Hume. *Hume's White-eye*.

11♂, 6♀. Meklong, Central Siam, January and February 1918.

Males. T.L. 110—115 (average 111.5) mm. W. 49—54 (average 52).

Females. T.L. (all specimens) 110 mm. W. 51—53 (average 52).

My collector reports that he found this bird very common on coconut palms, which were then in flower.

Family *CAPITONIDÆ*—*Barbets*.

29. *Chotorhea versicolor* (Raffles). *The Many-coloured Barbet*.

5♂, 3♀. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, October 1915 and July 1916.

Males. T.L. —, —, —, 277, 273 mm. W. 115, 119, 120, 119, 121.

Females. T.L. 279, 271, 269 mm. W. 120, 119, 114 (subad.).

This bird has been recorded by Robinson and Kloss from Trang, which is also in Peninsular Siam (Ibis, 1911, p. 43), but as no particulars are given, the above details may be of interest.

Family *PICIDÆ*—*Woodpeckers*.

30. *Miglyptes grammithorax* (Malh.). *The Fulvous-rumped Barred Woodpecker*.

3♂, 1♀. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, November 1915 and July 1916.

Males. T.L. —, 185, 184 mm. W. 97, 95, 95.

Female. T.L. 175 mm. W. 97.

Ogilvie-Grant has recorded this bird from Bukit Besar, Nawng Chik, Patani (Fasc. Malay., Zool. iii (1905), p. 98), and Robinson and Kloss from Trang (Ibis, 1911, p. 46). Mr. K. G. Gairdner also obtained a specimen at Sai Yoke, Western Siam, in April 1915 (identified by the British Museum), in evergreen jungle. The last-mentioned record marks a considerable northward extension of the local habitat of the bird—Sai Yoke being in Lat. 14'. 23" N., or about 7 degrees north of Trang. This woodpecker is essentially a Malayan form, and, according to Blanford (Faun. Brit. India, Birds, iii (1895), p. 53), extends northwards into Tenasserim about as far as Tavoy, which (it may be noted) is in approximately the same latitude as Sai Yoke.

Family *CUCULIDÆ*—*Cuckoos*.

31. *Chalcococcyx xanthorhynchus* (Horsf.). *The Violet Cuckoo*.

Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus, Faun. Brit. India, Birds, iii (1895), p. 221.

Chalcococcyx xanthorhynchus, Ogilvie-Grant, Fasc. Malay., Zool. iii (1905), p. 105; Robinson and Kloss, Ibis, 1911, p. 41.

1♂ ad. Bangnara, Peninsular Siam, August 1916.

T.L. 181 mm. W. 101.

1♂ imm. Bangkok, Central Siam, March 1918.

T.L. 165 mm. W. 99.

Iris lightish brown. Base of bill and gape reddish orange, remainder dusky to dark horn. Mouth reddish orange. Eyelids reddish orange. Legs dusky green. Claws dark horn.

The only previous records I can trace are those of Ogilvie-Grant and of Robinson and Kloss, above-mentioned, and it is to be noted that the specimens concerned were all obtained in various localities in Peninsular Siam. The last named authors say that the species is rare

in British Malaya, though widely distributed, and the same appears to be the case in Siam.

Family *BUCEROTIDÆ*—*Hornbills*.

32. *Ptilolaemus tickelli* (Blyth). *Tickell's Hornbill*.

Mr. K. G. Gairdner included this species in his list of birds from the Ratburi and Petchaburi districts (Journ. N. H. S. Siam, i., p. 150), and as this appears to be the only record from Siam, it may be of interest to note the following particulars which have been supplied to me by that gentleman :—

"Sex not determined. Shot on 28th March 1915, 30 miles north-east of Sai Yoke, Western Siam, in evergreen jungle, elevation 800 metres.

"Iris brown. Orbital and gular skin blue. Bill and casque brownish white, with a touch of orange at base of lower mandible. Legs, toes and claws very dark brown.

"T.L. 730 mm. T. 330. W. 320." (K. G. G.).

Family *ASIONIDÆ*—*Owls*.

33. *Syrnium seloputo* (Horsf.). *The Malayan Wood-Owl*.

1 ♀. Bandon, Peninsular Siam, August 1918.

T.L. 480 mm. W. 361.

The last record from this country appears to be that of Ogilvie-Grant (Fasc. Malay., Zool. iii (1905), p. 112) who mentions three specimens obtained by Messrs. Annandale and Robinson at Ban Sai Kau and Bisarut, both in Patani, Peninsular Siam, in 1901.

Family *VULTURIDÆ*—*Vultures*.

34. *Gyps tenuirostris* Hodgs. *The Himalayan Long-billed Vulture*.

Gyps tenuirostris, Gyldenstolpe, 1913, p. 62; id., 1916, p. 132.

1 ♂. Bangkok, Central Siam, May 1918.

T.L. 1045 mm. W. 640.

Iris very dark brown. Bill blackish, centre of culmen dull yellowish horn. Skin of head dark brownish slate, neck blackish. Legs and claws black.

35. *Pseudogyps bengalensis* (Gmel.). *The Indian White-backed Vulture.*

Pseudogyps bengalensis, Gyldenstolpe, 1913, p. 62; id., 1916, pp. 131, 132.

1♂ ad., 1♀ imm. Bangkok, Central Siam, March 1918.

Male. Iris dark brown. Cere and bill black, except basal half of upper mandible, which is greyish white. Bare neck-skin brownish leaden, a patch on each side of upper part of basal half of neck bluish grey. Legs dark brown. Claws black. T.L. 860 mm. W. 570.

Female. Iris, legs and claws, as in male. Whole bill blackish. Bare neck-skin bluish grey, with exception of small brownish patch adjoining lower mandible. T.L. 855 mm. W. 545.

Both these vultures are mentioned by Gyldenstolpe as occurring in Siam, but as no particulars are recorded, it is to be concluded that specimens were not obtained. The only other reference I can trace to either of these birds is that of Ogilvie-Grant (Fasc. Malay., Zool. iii (1905), p. 115), who records two specimens of *Pseudogyps bengalensis* from Patani, Peninsular Siam. In these examples the naked skin of the head is said to have been yellowish green.

Family *FALCONIDÆ*—*Eagles, Kites, Hawks, etc.*

36. *Aquila maculata* (Gmel.). *The Large Spotted Eagle.*

Aquila maculata, Gyldenstolpe, 1916, p. 125.

1♂. Kloung Pho Thao, near Bangkok, Central Siam, February 1916. W. 508 mm.

2♂, 2♀. Bangkok, Central Siam, November and December 1917.

Males. T.L. 660,— mm. W. 490, 493.

Females. T.L. 635,— mm. W. 495, 495.

Iris light brown to brown. Basal half, or more, of bill bluish grey, remainder black. Cere, gape and legs yellow. Claws black.

The only previous record appears to be that of the specimen obtained by Gyldenstolpe at Koh Lak, South-western Siam. This species is evidently partial to moist, half swampy tracts of country. Kloung Pho Thao, where my first specimen was obtained, is a low-lying region

about 25 miles south-east of Bangkok, a few feet above sea-level, covered with coarse grass, and intersected with canals which finally drain into the head of the Gulf of Siam. There are a few trees at intervals along the canal banks, and round the villages which occur here and there. Until last year I had never observed the bird in the actual vicinity of Bangkok, and it may have been attracted by the flooded condition of the country round the city, to which reference has already been made, *vide* pp. 21 and 22. When in the air, it is noticeable as a dark, heavily-built bird, with a large head and rather short neck.

37. *Butastur indicus* (Gmel.). *The Grey-faced Buzzard-Eagle.*

1 ♀ imm. Rayong, South-eastern Siam, November 1915. W. 320 mm.

1 ♂ ad., 1 ♀ ad. Bangkok, Central Siam, February and March 1918.

Male. T.L. 419 mm. W. 317. Female. T.L. 432 mm. W. 330, Iris yellow. Upper mandible and terminal half of lower black. Base of lower mandible orange-yellow (male), grey (female). Gape and cere orange-yellow. Legs and feet yellow. Claws black.

There appears to be no previous record of the occurrence of this bird in what is now Siamese territory, though Robinson and Kloss procured a couple of specimens in 1907 and the early part of 1909 (*Ibis*, 1911, p. 23), from the Langkawi Islands (on the west coast of the Malay Peninsula), which were then under the suzerainty of Siam. These islands were ceded to Great Britain in the latter of the two years mentioned, together with the State of Kedah, on the adjacent mainland.

38. *Butastur liventer* (Temm.). *The Rufous-winged Buzzard-Eagle.*

1 ♂ imm. Koh Yai (Samkok), Central Siam, July 1917.

T.L. 370 mm. W. 268.

Iris brown. Terminal two-thirds of upper mandible and tip of lower, dark brown; remainder of bill and cere deep yellow. Legs yellow. Claws black.

Blanford (*Faun. Brit. India, Birds*, iii (1895), p. 365) says this species is "found also in Siam"—the other countries mentioned being Burma, Borneo, Java and the Celebes. It does not appear to have

been procured by any recent collector.

*39. *Circus spilonotus* Kaup. *The Eastern Marsh-Harrier.*

1♂. Bangkok, Central Siam, December 1917.

Iris yellow. Bill black, base and gape bluish slate. Cere yellowish green. Mouth bluish slate. Legs bright yellow. Claws black.

2♂. Tachin, Central Siam, January 1918.

T.L. 533, —, — mm. W. 403, 418, 398.

40. *Astur soloensis* (Horsf.). *Horsfield's Short-toed Hawk.*

Accipiter soloensis, Gyldenstolpe, 1916, p. 125.

1♂. Satahip, South-eastern Siam, October 1914.

Iris reddish brown. Cere orange. Bill dark horny, plumbeous at base of upper mandible and dull yellowish horn at base of lower. Legs orange-yellow. Claws black.

T.L. 292 mm. W. 197.

Robinson and Kloss record a specimen (Ibis, 1911, p. 22) obtained on the Langkawi Islands on the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, in December 1907. As already mentioned (*antea*, p. 28), these islands passed out of the possession of Siam in 1909. The authors quoted observe that *Astur soloensis* is very rare in the Malay Peninsula, and the same is evidently the case in this country, as the only specimen hitherto recorded from what is now Siamese territory appears to be that obtained by Gyldenstolpe in Northern Siam.

Blanford (Faun. Brit. India, Birds, iii (1905), p. 400) states that a specimen shot by Bingham had been feeding on lizards and frogs. The stomach of the one obtained by me was full of the remains of insects.

*41. *Accipiter nisus* (Linn.), ? subsp. *The Sparrow Hawk.*

2♀ subad. Bangkok, Central Siam, March and April 1918.

Iris rich yellow. Bill black, bluish grey at base. Cere yellowish green. Mouth bluish slate. Tarsus dull greenish. Feet dull yellow. Claws black. (In the second specimen, the cere was greenish, and the legs and feet pale yellow, with the exception of the tarsus,

which was greenish in front only.)

T.L. 406, 394 mm. W. 252, 242.

Mr. H. C. Robinson, to whom these specimens were submitted, remarks that they are rather too pale for the Himalayan form (*Accipiter nisus melanochistus* Hume) of the ordinary European Sparrow-Hawk, and are probably migrant specimens of some Chinese race.

Both specimens were obtained in the bare, dry rice-fields south of Sathorn Road. In the case of the first one, my collector reports that he had just shot a Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*), on the ground, when the hawk suddenly swooped on it from the air, and carried it off to a tree to devour. The man followed the hawk to the tree and shot it there.

*42. *Falco peregrinus calidus* Lath. *The Eastern Peregrine Falcon.*

1 ♀ subad. Bangkok, Central Siam, December 1917.

Iris dark brown. Bill bluish grey at base, passing into blackish at tip. Cere, eyelids and skin round eyes greenish grey. Legs yellow. Claws black.

T.L. 457 mm. W. 325.

Family COLUMBIDÆ—Pigeons and Doves.

43. *Columba livia intermedia* Strickl. *The Indian Blue Rock-Pigeon.*

Columba intermedia, Faun. Brit. Ind., Birds, iv (1898), p. 29.

Barton (Journ. Nat. Hist. Soc. Siam, i, p. 108), in his "Short List of Birds from the Raheng District," observes:—"Kept by priests in Raheng Wats (Temples), I have not seen them wild, but they must be found in suitable places."

H. R. H. the Prince of Chumporn has sent me a specimen shot by him in May 1915 at Muang Singh, in Central Siam (W. 212. mm.), and another (♂), procured at Chainat, also in Central Siam (W. 210), in February 1917. Subsequently, my collector shot one at Tachin, in January 1918, and two in the immediate vicinity of Bangkok, in May and July 1918, of which last three the measurements are as follows:—

1 ♂. T. L. 320 mm. W. 215.

2 ♀. T. L. 330,— mm. W. 215, 220.

Iris brownish orange. Bill black, whitish at base of upper mandible. Legs lake-red. Claws dark horn.

According to Blanford (*loc. cit. supra*) this subspecies of the Blue Rock-Pigeon of Europe has a wing measuring 9 inches (228.6 mm.), whereas the wings of the five specimens above mentioned range from 210 to 220 mm., with an average of about 214.4 mm., or under $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches. This fact made me somewhat doubtful whether the birds were genuine wild specimens, or semi-domesticated individuals. I have, however, submitted them to Mr. H. C. Robinson for examination, and he writes:—"I see no reason why your birds should not be considered as this form, which has been recorded from 'Siam' by Schomburgk, and from Salanga † by Darling." Personally, I am still doubtful of the five specimens here recorded, and I include them in this list with all reserve.

44. *Alsocomus puniceus* Tickell. *The Purple Wood-Pigeon.*

Alsocomus puniceus, Gairdner, Journ. Nat. Hist. Soc. Siam, i, pp. 39 and 151; Gyldenstolpe, 1916, p. 151; Kloss, Ibis, 1918, p. 83.

2♂. Koh Pàra, Inner Gulf of Siam, March 1918.

T. L. 385, 380 mm. W. 223, 216.

The authors above quoted obtained their specimens in the Western and South-western divisions of the country, whereas mine were procured on a small island off the coast on the eastern side of the Inner Gulf of Siam.

*45. *Macropygia ruficeps* (Temm.). *The Little Malay Cuckoo-Dove.*

Mr. K. G. Gairdner obtained a specimen of this small long-tailed dove near Raheng, in the northern part of Central Siam, at a height of 1500 ft. in May 1917.

(Length 13'4". Tail 6'5". Iris brown. Tarsus red. Bill fleshy, K. G. G.)

† Salanga, of the old authors, is the Siamese island of Puket, off the west coast of the Malay Peninsula. To the inhabitants of British Malaya it is now known as Tongkah.

My collector subsequently procured two, in September 1917, in the district of Muang Wang, Northern Siam.

2♂ imm. T. L. 295, 252 mm. W. 148, 137.

Family PHASIANIDÆ—*Pheasants, Partridges, etc.*,

46. *Arboricola brunneipectus* Tick. *The Brown-breasted Hill-Partridge.*

Arboricola brunneipectus, Gyldenstolpe, 1916, p. 156.

Gyldenstolpe's specimen was obtained at Doi Vieng Par, a mountain in North-western Siam, but it was, he states, too badly damaged to be preserved and could only be used for identification. He adds, "The Brown-breasted Hill-Partridge is only to be found among the mountains of Northern Siam."

In view of this statement it may be noted that Mr. K. G. Gairdner procured a specimen (identified by the British Museum) at Sai Yoke, Western Siam, in March 1915, at an elevation of 800 metres.

Family HELIORNITHIDÆ—*Finfeet.*

47. *Heliopais personata* (Gray). *The Masked Finfoot.*

1♂. Muang Khlung, Chantaboon, South-eastern Siam, May 1917. W. 268 mm.

This specimen was procured by my collector, who, unfortunately, was incapable of noting the colours of the soft parts. Muang Khlung, the locality where it was obtained, is a coastal district about 12 miles south-east of the town of Chantaburi.

Bonhote's example from Jalor, Patani, in 1899 (P. Z. S., 1901, p. 79), and that of Robinson from Koh Pennan, an island in the Bight of Bandon, in 1913 (Journ. Fed. Mal. States Mus., v, No. 3 (1915), p. 141) appear to be the only previous records of this rare bird from Siam. Both these localities are in Peninsular Siam, on the opposite side of the Gulf to that on which my specimen was obtained.

Family RALLIDÆ—*Rails, Crakes, etc.*

48. *Porzana pusilla* (Pall.). *The Eastern Crake.*

Bonhote (P. Z. S., 1901, p. 79) records a specimen obtained by the Skeat Expedition at Patelung, Peninsular Siam, in April 1899.

No further examples appear to have been procured in this country until January 1917, when Major-General E. W. Trotter, of the Gendarmerie, while on tour at Minburi, about 15 miles east-north-east of Bangkok, had ten of these birds brought to him alive, which had just been caught in nets among high grass. He kindly gave me four for my collection, and put the rest into his aviary.

Subsequently, I obtained four more in October 1917 from the immediate outskirts of Bangkok, of which one was shot by Major C. H. Forty, of the Gendarmerie, at the Sports Club, two by Mr. J. J. McBeth at the "Ditches," east of the Wireless Station, and the fourth by my collector at the last mentioned place. They were all shot out of longish grass.

3♂ ad., 2♂ imm., 2♀ ad.

Males (adult). W. 87, 90, 91 mm. Females. W. 88, 90 mm.

Iris bright brick-red. Bill dull green, darker on culmen. Legs olive-green. Claws horn-colour.

Family *OEDICNEMIDÆ*—*Stone-Plovers*.

*49. *Oedicnemus scolopax* (S. G. Gmel.). *The Stone-Plover*.

H. R. H. the Prince of Chumpon obtained a specimen (W. 215 mm.) at Sena Yai, Krung Kao, Central Siam, in February 1916, while I procured another in the fields between Klong Toi, Bangkok, and the Chao Phya river, in July 1918. The particulars of the latter are as follows:—

1♀. T.L. 385 mm. W. 223.

Iris brownish yellow. Terminal half of bill blackish; basal half yellow above, greenish yellow below, with culmen and commissure blackish. Eyelids yellow. Legs pale greenish yellow. Claws black.

Family *CHARADRIIDÆ*—*Plovers, Sandpipers, etc.*

*50. *Microsarcops cinereus* (Blyth). *The Grey-headed Lapwing*.

Mr. K. G. Gairdner obtained a specimen at Raheng, in the northern part of Central Siam, in January 1916.

(Not uncommon, and usually found singly, or in pairs or threes, in company with *Hoplopterus ventralis*, the Spur-winged Plover. K. G. G.)

H. R. H. the Prince of Chumpon subsequently procured another at Pak-hai, Krung Kao, Central Siam, in March 1917, while I obtained a third specimen (solitary) at Bangkok, in October 1917, of which the following are the particulars:—

1♂ imm. T. L. 362 mm. W. 242.

Iris reddish brown. Terminal third of bill black, remainder yellow. Lappets and edges of eyelids yellow. Legs greenish yellow. Claws black.

51. *Squatarola helvetica* (Linn.). *The Grey Plover*.

Squatarola squatarola, Gyldenstolpe, 1916, p. 143.

Gyldenstolpe records this species from Siam on the strength of having seen a specimen resting on the sandy beach just outside the village of Koh Lak, in South-western Siam.

My collector obtained one (♀) at Paknam Chantabun, South-eastern Siam, in March 1916. W. 200 mm.

52. *Limosa limosa* (Linn.). *The Black-tailed Godwit*.

Limosa belgica, Faun. Brit. India, Birds, iv (1898), p. 254.

Limosa melanuroides, Journ. Nat. Hist. Soc. Siam, ii, p. 62.

I have previously recorded in this Journal (*loc. cit.*) that a specimen of this bird was obtained by Mr. C. J. Aagaard on Koh Khwai, Inner Gulf of Siam, in November 1911. Last year I obtained two from the fields round Bangkok—the first of which was shot by Major C. H. Forty, early in September, out of a flock of about 15 feeding on fairly wet, newly ploughed rice-land. The second was brought to me alive in November by a Siamese who had caught it the previous night by means of a small hand-net. The *modus operandi* is to sally forth on a dark night, with a torch carried by a second person, and to drop the net on to any bird seen on the ground. The birds, it appears, are fascinated by the light, and frequently make no attempt to get away. I have had many small waders (including snipe), as well as pipits, &c., brought to me by these men.

2♂. T. L. 394,— mm. W. 198, 182.

Iris dark brown. Terminal half of bill dark brown, basal half dull pinkish flesh. Legs dark brown. Claws dark brown.

In the second (and smaller) bird, the terminal half of the bill was blackish, the basal half dusky purplish (lighter on the lower mandible), and the claws blackish.

53. *Terekia cinerea* (Güldenst.). *The Avocet Sandpiper.*

Ogilvie-Grant (Fasc. Malay., Zool. iii (1905), p. 118), records a specimen from Kampong Budi, Patani, Peninsular Siam, in October 1901. The species is also included by Robinson and Kloss in their paper (Ibis, 1911, p. 13) on birds obtained in Trang, on the Langkawi Islands, etc., but without specifying any particular locality. They merely observe that it is common along the coast in the winter months. The fact is, therefore, worth noting that H. R. H. the Prince of Chumpon shot a specimen (♂, W. 130 mm.) on the mud-flats at the mouth of the Chao Phya river, at the head of the Gulf of Siam, in April 1917.

*54. *Totanus fuscus* (Linn.). *The Spotted Redshank.*

H. R. H. the Prince of Chumpon obtained a specimen of this bird (♂, W. 165 mm.) near Chainat, Central Siam, in February 1917, and a second one (unsexed, W. 163 mm.) at the mouth of the Chao Phya river, in April 1917. I cannot trace any previous records from this country.

*55. *Tringa crassirostris* (Temm.). *The Eastern Knot.*

In February 1918 I found this bird common at Lat Yai, near Meklong, Central Siam. In this locality there is an extensive area of bare, semi-swampy ground, with a hard, rather sandy surface, and in one place the water forms a kind of shallow lagoon, a few inches deep, shelving very gradually from the margin to the centre. The place is within a very few miles of the sea, and not far off are the fields where salt is collected by the evaporation of sea-water. It was there that a considerable number of *Tringa crassirostris* were found, standing in the shallow water, and prepared, on one's too near approach, to rise in a flock and wheel off to a distant part of the miniature lake. Stalking about in the deeper portions were a number of *Himantopus candidus* (the Black-winged Stilt), with the usual sandpipers on the margin of the piece of water.

3 ♂. T. L. 293, 293, 295 mm. W. 192, 182, 188.

3 ♀. T. L. 290, 295, 295 mm. W. 190, 185, 189.

Iris dark brown. Bill blackish brown. Legs dusky greenish.

Claws blackish.

56. *Tringa platyrhyncha* (Temm.). *The Broad-billed Stint.*

A specimen was shot by H. R. H. the Prince of Chumpon in April 1917, at the mouth of the Chao Phya river. The only previous record I can trace is that of Ogilvie-Grant (Fasc. Malay., Zool. iii (1905), p. 118), who reports an individual of this species obtained at Kampong Budi, Patani, Peninsular Siam, in September 1901.

Family *LARIDÆ*—*Gulls and Terns.*

57. *Larus brunneicephalus* Jerdon. *The Brown-headed Gull.*

Larus brunneicephalus, Gyldenstolpe, 1913, p. 70.

5♂, 5♀. Estuary, Tachin river, December 1916 and March 1917

Males. W. 336—354 mm. (average 343).

Females. W. 334—345 mm. (average 333).

2♀. Bangkok, Central Siam, April 1918.

T.L. 451, 445 mm. W. 325, 330.

Iris dull white to dull yellowish white. Mouth orange-red. Eyelids and bill deep lake-red. Legs dull red to lake-red. Claws dark horn-colour.

Gyldenstolpe includes this species in his list of Siamese birds, but as no particulars of specimens are given, it is to be presumed he did not procure any. He states that it is common along the northern coast of the Gulf of Siam, and that it also occurs a few miles up the Chao Phya river, but never as far up as Bangkok. The last part of this statement is incorrect. I shot the above two Bangkok specimens opposite the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation's sawmill, and I have seen others at different times, higher up the river, including a party of 8 or 10 flying up-stream past the Custom House. The fact is, this bird is quite common on the river during the winter months, right up as far as Bangkok, though it is only to be seen during certain phases of the tide—coming up with the flood and going down with the ebb.

*58. *Hydrochelidon leucoptera* (Meisner and Schinz).
The White-winged Black Tern.

I have three specimens of a small tern, shot in the neighbourhood of Bangkok, which I have identified as belonging to this species. One, obtained in February 1915, is in winter plumage, while the other two, which were procured in April and October 1918, appear to be immature individuals, so the only means of distinguishing them from *H. hybrida* (the Whiskered Tern), which is the common species in this locality, is by size. By this test the identification seems correct, and I can see no difference between my birds and a specimen of *H. leucoptera*, from Penang, which has been kindly sent to me by Mr. H. C. Robinson for comparison.

1♀. W. 214 mm. Bill from gape 35.

2♀ imm. W. 200, 206 mm. Bill from gape 32, 34.

Iris dark brown. Bill blackish brown, slightly tinged with red. Gape pale reddish. Mouth reddish flesh. Legs orange-red, dusky in front. Claws dark horn.

*59. *Hydroprogne caspia* (Pall.). *The Caspian Tern.*

I obtained three fine specimens of this large and handsome tern at Tachin, Central Siam, in March 1917. They were all shot flying over the river, and, as observed by Blanford (Faun. Brit. India, Birds, iv (1898), p. 310), this species may be readily distinguished (apart from its great size) by its habit, when looking for food, of flying over the water with the bill directed downwards, almost at right angles to the line of the body. It is usually found singly, but sometimes a couple may be observed together.

2♂. W. 408, 405 mm.

1♀. W. 400 mm.

Iris dark brown. Bill sealing-wax red, dusky at tip. Mouth sealing-wax red. Legs and claws black.

60. *Sterna sinensis* Gmel. *The White-shafted Ternlet.*

1♂, 1♀. Koh Lak, South-western Siam, June 1917.

2♂. Hua Hin, South-western Siam, June 1918.

Males. T.L. 236, 240, 280 mm. W. 181, 180, 187.

Female. T.L. 243 mm. W. 186.

Iris dark brown. Bill yellow, tipped black. Legs deep yellow. Claws horn-colour.

The only previous records appear to be those of Bonhote (P.Z.S., 1901, p. 80) and of Ogilvie-Grant (Fasc. Malay., Zool. iii (1905), p. 119), from Patani, Peninsular Siam, in 1899 and 1901, respectively.

*61. *Anous stolidus* (Linn.). *The Noddy*.

3♂, 1♀. Rocky islet near Koh Chuan, Inner Gulf of Siam, May 1918.

Males. T.L. 427, 432, 437 mm. W. 282, 280, 300.

Female. T.L. 407 mm. W. 276.

Iris very dark brown. Mouth and gape yellow. Bill black. Legs blackish brown. Claws black.

The islet where these birds were obtained is a few miles south of Koh Chuan, in the Inner Gulf of Siam, and is an absolutely bare, low-lying rock, without the slightest sign of vegetation of any kind. It was absolutely swarming with terns (*Sterna bergii*, *S. melanauchen* and *S. anaetheta*), all breeding, and among these the dark smoky or chocolate-brown Noddies were very conspicuous. They were also most extraordinarily tame, and I could have shot any number, but was content with four. The specific name is a very apt one, as the bird gives one the impression of being rather stolid and dull-witted.

I was so fortunate, also, as to obtain two eggs of this species—each laid singly on a slight depression on the bare rock.

Family *SULIDÆ*—*Gannets*.

62. *Sula sula* (Linn.). *The Booby or Brown Gannet*.

1♂. Rocky islet near Koh Chuan, Inner Gulf of Siam, May 1918.

T.L. 775 mm. W 400.

Iris white. Bill pale bluish horn-colour. Pouch bluish slate. Loose skin at base of mandible yellowish green. Legs pale greenish yellow. Claws pale bluish horn.

I have already recorded (Journ. Nat. Hist. Soc. Siam, ii, p. 63) the finding of a sun-dried specimen of this bird on an islet near Koh Rin, in the Inner Gulf of Siam, in July 1916. On the present occasion

I came across four or five Brown Gannets, on the same rocky islet as that on which the Noddies were procured, and shot a couple. One, however, drifted away on a strong tide, and was lost to view before the boat from which I had landed (which was at the other end of the islet), could be brought round. The specimen I obtained was a fine adult bird, in full plumage.

Family *PHALACROCORACIDÆ*—*Cormorants*.

*63. *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis* Steph. *The Indian Shag*.

2♂, 3♀ ad., 3♂, 1♀ imm. Klong Pho Thao, off Klong Sam-rong, 24 miles south-east of Bangkok, Central Siam, (?) August and September 1916.

Males (ad.). W. 260, 262 mm.

Females (ad.). W. 255, 266, 267 mm.

These birds were procured by my collector, who reported them as very common. The locality in which they were obtained is that described in connection with *Aquila maculata*, the Large Spotted Eagle (*antea*, p. 27). The two adult males and one of the adult females have the pure white tuft of feathers on each side of the neck, behind the ear-coverts, which is assumed in the breeding season. The months in which they were procured, as mentioned above, are approximate only. I was away from Siam from August to December 1916, and the collector, who is illiterate, informed me that he had shot the birds during the first two months or so of my absence.

I have never come across this bird myself. When I visited the above locality, in May 1918, I only saw specimens of *P. javanicus*, the Little Cormorant.

Family *CICONIDÆ*—*Storks*.

64. *Anastomus oscitans* (Bodd.). *The Open-bill*.

I came across a large number of these birds feeding in the semi-swampy, grassy fields at a place called Prom-den, on the railway between Bangkok and Tachin, in March 1917. They were rather wild, but I succeeded in obtaining a couple. As a result of the firing, the birds (which were scattered over a wide area, in small parties) collected together in a large flock of 60 to 80 individuals, and wheeled about with outstretched wings, high in the air, looking very much like vultures.

1♂, 1♀. Prom-den, Meklong Railway, Central Siam, March 1917.

Male. W. 416 mm. Female. W. 411.

Iris dull yellowish white. Bill dull greenish horn, blackish at base, and reddish at tip and on underside of lower mandible. Gular skin and bare skin in front of eyes blackish. Legs fleshy white. Claws dull pinkish, dark at tips.

My collector subsequently obtained four immature specimens at Ta-rüa, Central Siam, in July 1917.

The only previous reference to this bird, which I have come across in the literature dealing with the ornithology of Siam, is that of Gairdner (Journ. Nat. Hist. Soc. Siam, i, p. 30) who states that the huge flocks of it, which occur there, are a feature of the broad plains north-west of Ratburi.

The Siamese name, *Pak-hang*, corresponds very closely in its meaning to the English one.

Family ARDEIDÆ—*Heron*s.

65. *Herodias garzetta* (Linn.). *The Little Egret*.

Garzetta garzetta, Ogilvie-Grant, Fasc. Malay., Zool. iii (1905), p. 117.

1♂, 4♀. Tachin, Central Siam, August 1917 and January 1918

3♂, 2♀. Bangkok, Central Siam, November 1917.

Male (one). T. L. 603 mm. W. 274. Males (three). W. 276, 278, 280 mm.

Female (one). T. L. 552 mm. W. 252. Females (five). W. 258, 260, 261, 269, 275 mm.

Iris pale yellow. Bill blackish, base of lower mandible whitish flesh. Facial skin greenish yellow. Tarsus and bare portion of tibia very dark to blackish brown. Toes yellowish green to greenish yellow. Claws horn colour.

The difference in colour between the tarsus and the toes is sharply defined and is a striking peculiarity of this bird. In some specimens the green of the toes extends up the tarsus as much as 25 to 40 mm.

The specimen listed by Ogilvie-Grant (*loc. cit. supra*) was obtained at Jering, Patani, Peninsular Siam, in June 1901. There appear to have been no published records from this country, subsequent to that date, though Mr. C. J. Aagaard's diary contains a note of two shot at Anghin and Bang Phra, both being places on the eastern coast of the Inner Gulf of Siam, in December 1912 and February 1913, respectively, while H. R. H. the Prince of Chumpon obtained a fine specimen in breeding plumage, also at Bang Phra, in May 1917.

The bird is probably quite common in suitable localities, and has merely failed to be recorded, of late years, owing to its close resemblance to the ubiquitous *Bubulcus coromandus* (the Cattle Egret), when the latter is in its white or non-breeding plumage. The most noticeable difference between the two species is in the colouration of the bill, which is black in the case of *Herodias garzetta*, and yellow in that of *Bubulcus coromandus*.

I had never seen the bird in Bangkok until last year, when it was very common during the floods in November, but disappeared as soon as they subsided.

66. *Gorsachius melanolophus* (Raffles). *The Malay Bittern*.

So far as I can ascertain, this species has hitherto been recorded only from Trang, Peninsular Siam (Robinson and Kloss, Ibis, 1911, p. 15), and Koh Lak, South-western Siam (Gyldenstolpe, 1916, p. 137). It is worth noting, therefore, that Mr. K. G. Gairdner obtained a specimen (identified by the British Museum) at Sai Yoke, Western Siam, in April 1915.

(♂. Iris yellow. Orbital skin greenish grey. Legs yellowish green. K. G. G.).

My collector subsequently procured two, in Northern and Eastern Siam, respectively, of which the following are the particulars:—

1♀. Phrae, Northern Siam, May 1916. W. 256 mm.

1♂ imm. Lat Bua Khao, Eastern Siam, September 1916. W. 256 mm.

Family ANATIDÆ—*Swans, Geese and Ducks.*67. *Sarcidiornis melanonotus* (Penn.). *The Comb Duck.**Sarcidiornis melanola* (sic.), Gyl lenstolpe, 1916, p. 134.

1♂. Klong Luang Peng, near Bangkok, Central Siam, February 1918.

T. L. 711 mm. W. 370.

Iris dark brown. Bill and comb black. Legs dull greenish plumbeous. Nails dark horn.

Shot by Mr. R. B. H. Gibbins, who kindly gave it to me for my collection.

The only previous reference to this fine bird, which I can trace, is that of Gyldenstolpe who saw some specimens in captivity in the garden of the Lao Prince of Ch'engmai, Northern Siam. These were said to have been caught somewhere in Upper Siam.

Family PODICIPEDIDÆ—*Grebes.*68. *Podiceps albipennis* (Sharpe). *The Indian Little Grebe.**Podiceps philippensis*, Bonhote, P. Z. S., 1901, p. 80.

1♂, 1♀. Prom-den, Meklong Railway, Central Siam, March 1917.

1♀. Muang Khlung, Chantaburi, South-eastern Siam, May 1917.

Male. W. 104 mm. Females. W. 107, 103.

Iris yellow. Bill yellowish horn, blackish on culmen and at base of lower mandible. Legs dusky green, darker on toes and webs. Nails dull greenish, tips whitish.

The first two birds were obtained by me out of a party of about half-a-dozen which I came across on a small, shallow, grassy pool of water in the middle of the fields referred to in connection with *Anastomus oscitans*, the Open-bill (*antea*, p. 39). They were swimming on the surface, looking much like Cotton Teal, though smaller, and, when fired at, either dived, or disappeared into the long grass at the edge of the pool. I managed, however, to flush one, and obtained a second shot.The only previous record appears to be that of Bonhote (*loc. cit. supra*) who lists a specimen obtained by the Skeat Expedition at Patelung, Peninsular Siam, in March 1899.